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EXAMINER	
PHAM, HUNG Q	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2172	14

DATE MAILED: 12/30/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/782,926	FOSTER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	HUNG Q PHAM	2172	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *08 September 2003*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-34* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) *10-26* is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-9 and 27-34* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicants amended claims 1, added new claims 27-34 in the amendment filed 09/08/2003. Claims 10-26 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected invention, there being no allowable generic or linking claim.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicants' arguments filed 09/08/2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

As argued by applicants on page 9:

> *In fact, Land does not even disclose a data channel server that provides an interface between the repository server and the client tool and within which the extended property associated with each data item in the data source is maintained. In the May 7 Office Action, the Examiner writes: "As shown in FIG. 3, client 22 facilitates the object request broker as a medium for communicating with data server 18 to obtain data, distribute objects, etc. from data server 18 (Col. 5, lines 16-24) as at least one data channel server providing an interface between said at least one repository server and said at least one client tool." May 7 Office Action, page 3, line 20 to page 4, line 2. However, nowhere in Land is it disclosed that an extended property is maintained within the Object Request Broker 300, which the Examiner has incorrectly equated with the data channel server element of Claim 1. Furthermore, Land does not suggest that an extended property could or should be maintained within the Object Request Broker 300 nor does Land provide any motivation for maintaining an extended property within the Object Request Broker 300.*
> *Thus, Land specifically teaches that the presentation properties of Land are maintained by the presentation service that is part of the Data Server 18 and is not part of the Object Request Broker 300.*

Examiner respectfully traverses because of the following reasons:

As in claim 1, the claimed collaboration system comprising: ***at least one data channel server providing an interface between said at least one repository server and said at least one client tool***; and ***at least one extended property associated with each data item within***

said at least one data source, said at least one extended property being maintained by said at least one data channel server.

As defined by Microsoft Press (see attachment):

> *Interface n. 1. The point at which a connection is made between two elements so that they can work with each other.*
>
> *Server n. 2. On the Internet or other network, a computer or program that responds to commands from a client.*

As shown in FIG. 3 of Land reference, object request broker (ORB) 300 is the medium for communicating between client 22 and server 18, Interface 304 is used to standardize the interactions between data server 18 and ORB 300. Object-based services 306 provided by data server 18 to access, report, and otherwise manipulate the data requested by client 22 (Col. 5, lines 16-27). As seen, ORB 300, interface 304 and object-based services 306 as a plurality of programs that provides a connection between client 22 and server 18. In short, this performs the claimed ***at least one data channel server providing an interface between said at least one repository server and said at least one client tool***. Land further discloses the object-based services 306 are comprised of other services 316, which include a presentation service that provides access to the information base 318 containing presentation-related information. The presentation service maintains presentation information at a userid level. Examples of the presentation data maintained by this service include contexts, workspaces, and presentation properties, e.g., background color associated with a chart, images used as tree view nodes, and fonts associated with object labels (Col. 5, line 27-Col. 6, line 17). As seen, background color and fonts as ***extended properties*** are maintained by object-

based services 306, obviously is one of data channel servers as discussed above. In other words, background color or fonts as ***at least one extended property associated with each data item within said at least one data source, said at least one extended property being maintained by said at least one data channel server.***

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

4. Claims 1-4, 7, 9 27, 30-32 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Land et al. [USP 6,505,246 B1].

Regarding to claim 1, Land teaches a system for presenting performance and system management data on a computer monitor. As shown in FIG. 1, the Data Server 18 collects and stores performance data from one or more computer systems 12 in the network 10 in a relational database. As a relational database, the Data Server 18 is equipped with one or more data retrieval engines, such as those using conventional structured query language (SQL) statements. Data is stored in the Data Server 18 and retrieved therefrom by one or more application programs, including the Clients 22 (Col. 3, line 64-Col. 4, lines 23). As shown in FIG. 2, Client 22 acts as an interface between data server 18, input devices 200, and display device 202. Each client 22 can have one or more model 204, workplace object 206, view 208, and controller 210 for display of data from data server 18 on display device 202 (Col. 4, lines 51-67). The technique as disclosed by Land indicates the server 18 as ***at least one repository server associated with at least one data source and enabled for accessing data items within said at least one data source using*** SQL as ***access methods native to said at least one data source***, and model 204, workplace object 206, view 208, controller 210 as ***at least one client tool enabled for displaying the data items within said at least one data source on a user terminal connectable with said computer implemented collaboration system***. As shown in FIG. 3, object request broker (ORB) 300 is the medium for communicating between client 22 and server 18, Interface 304 is used to standardize the interactions between data server 18 and ORB 300. Object-based services 306 provided by data server 18 to access, report, and otherwise manipulate the data requested by client 22 (Col. 5, lines 16-27). As seen, ORB 300, interface 304 and object-based services 306 as a plurality of programs that

provides a connection between client 22 and server 18. In short, this performs the claimed ***at least one data channel server providing an interface between said at least one repository server and said at least one client tool***. Land does not explicitly teaches ***at least one extended property associated with each data item within said at least one data source, said at least one extended property being maintained within said at least one data channel server***. However, Land further discloses the object-based services 306 are comprised of other services 316, which include a presentation service that provides access to the information base 318 containing presentation-related information. The presentation service maintains presentation information at a userid level. Examples of the presentation data maintained by this service include contexts, workspaces, and presentation properties, e.g., background color associated with a chart, images used as tree view nodes, and fonts associated with object labels (Col. 5, line 27-Col. 6, line 17). As seen, background color and fonts obviously are ***extended properties*** and maintained by object-based services 306, one of data channel servers providing an interface as discussed above. In different words, background color or fonts as ***at least one extended property associated with each data item within said at least one data source, said at least one extended property being maintained by said at least one data channel server***. Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the Land system by including at least one extended property associated with each data item in order to customize the view to present the data selected in a manner most suitable to the user.

Regarding to claim 27, Land teaches a system for presenting performance and system management data on a computer monitor. As shown in FIG. 1, the Data Server 18 collects and stores performance data from one or more computer systems 12 in the network 10 in a relational database. As a relational database, the Data Server 18 is equipped with one or more data retrieval engines, such as those using conventional structured query language (SQL) statements (Col. 3, line 64-Col. 4, lines 23), and information base is a database access by Data Server 18 (Col. 6, lines 18-22). The technique as discussed indicates the claimed ***at least one repository server associated with at least one data source and enabled for accessing data items within said at least one data source using*** SQL as ***access methods native to said at least one data source***. As shown in FIG. 3, the query service 308 provides a general capability to support query operations on a collection of objects within data server 18. Query service 308 comprises general manipulation operations including selection, insertion, updating, and deletion of objects, as well as reading object contents (Col. 8, lines 33-42). As shown in FIG. 5 is a tree structure represents a plurality of files or documents and each file or document representing selected data items within the information base. As seen, the query service 308 indicates the claimed ***at least one document server providing at least one interface for creating a plurality of documents, each document representing selected data items within said at least one data source***. As shown in FIG. 2, each client 22 can have one or more model 204, workplace object 206, view 208, and controller 210 for display of data from data server 18 on display device 202 (Col. 4, lines 51-67) as ***at least one client tool enabled for displaying the data items within said at least one data source on a user terminal connectable***

with said computer implemented collaboration system. As shown in FIG. 3, object request broker (ORB) 300 is the medium for communicating between client 22 and server 18, Interface 304 is used to standardize the interactions between data server 18 and ORB 300. Object-based services 306 provided by data server 18 to access, report, and otherwise manipulate the data requested by client 22 (Col. 5, lines 16-27). As seen, ORB 300, interface 304 and object-based services 306 as a plurality of programs that provides a connection between client 22 and server 18. In short, this performs the claimed ***at least one data channel server providing an interface between said at least one repository server and said at least one client tool***. Land does not explicitly teaches ***at least one data channel server being further enabled for maintaining an instance of at least one extended property associated with each data item represented in a document***. However, Land further discloses the object-based services 306 are comprised of other services 316, which include a presentation service that provides access to the information base 318 containing presentation-related information. The presentation service maintains presentation information at a userid level. Examples of the presentation data maintained by this service include contexts, workspaces, and presentation properties, e.g., background color associated with a chart, images used as tree view nodes, and fonts associated with object labels (Col. 5, line 27-Col. 6, line 17). As seen, background color and fonts obviously are ***extended properties*** and maintained by object-based services 306, one of data channel servers providing an interface as discussed above. In different words, background color or fonts as ***at least one extended property associated with each data item represented in a document***, and maintained by ***at least one data channel server***.

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the Land system by including at least one extended property associated with each data item in order to customize the view to present the data selected in a manner most suitable to the user.

Regarding to claims 2 and 31, Land teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claims 1 and 27, Land further discloses ***at least one extended property comprises one of a visualization property and a control property for use in displaying the data items with said at least one client tool*** (Col. 5, line 25-Col. 6, line 17).

Regarding to claim 3, Land teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 1, Land further discloses ***a plurality of client tools enabled for displaying the data items within said at least one data source*** (FIGS. 5-6, Cols. 6-7).

Regarding to claims 4 and 32, Land teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claims 3 and 27, Land further discloses ***client tools include a map viewer, a list viewer, and an X-Y data plotter*** (FIGS. 5-6, Cols. 6-7).

Regarding to claim 7, Land teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 1, Land further discloses ***a conference manager client tool enabled for managing communication between multiple user terminals connectable with said computer implemented collaboration system*** (Col. 3, line 64-Col. 4, line 2).

Regarding to claims 9 and 34, Land teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claims 1 and 27, Land further discloses: ***said at least one repository server, said at least one client tool, and said at least one data channel server are implemented within a CORBA framework*** (FIG. 3, Col. 5, line 16-Col. 6, line 23).

Regarding to claim 30, Land teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 27, Land further discloses ***a conference manager client tool enabled for managing communication between multiple user terminals connectable with said computer implemented collaboration system, each said document being placed within a conference managed by said at least one conference manager client tool*** (Col. 3, line 64-Col. 4, line 2).

5. Claims 5-6 and 28-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Land et al. [USP 6,505,246 B1] in view of Goldberg et al. [USP 6,430,556 B1].

Regarding to claims 5 and 28, Land teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claims 1 and 27, but fails to disclose ***a query viewing client tool enabled for use in constructing queries for selecting data from said at least one data source meeting particular criteria; a library server providing an interface between said query viewing client application and said at least one repository server***. Goldberg teaches a system for accessing databases with query objects, Goldberg further discloses ***a query viewing***

client tool enabled for use in constructing queries for selecting data from said at least one data source meeting particular criteria; a library server providing an interface between said query viewing client application and said at least one repository server (Goldberg, FIGS. 9-12, and 14, Col. 11-13). Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the Land system by including a query viewing client tool and a library server in order to provide a visual integrated development environment for generating, installing, and testing of query objects.

Regarding to claim 6, Land and Goldberg teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 5, Goldberg further discloses ***query viewing client tool is enabled for use in constructing at least one of a standing query and a static query*** (Goldberg, FIG. 10).

Regarding to claim 29, Land and Goldberg teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claim 28, Goldberg further discloses ***query viewing client tool is enabled for use in constructing at least one of a standing query and a static query, wherein a document representing data items selected as a result of a standing query is updated when the selected data items change*** (Goldberg, FIG. 10).

6. Claims 8 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Land et al. [USP 6,505,246 B1] in view of Driemeyer et al [USP 6,496,190 B1].

Regarding to claims 8 and 33, Land teaches all the claimed subject matters as discussed in claims 1 and 27, but fails to disclose ***at least one extended property is maintained in said at least one data channel server in a directed a-cyclic graphical form***. Driemeyer teaches a computer graphics system and further discloses ***at least one extended property is maintained in said at least one data channel server in a directed a-cyclic graphical form*** (Driemeyer, Col. 3, line 66-Col. 5, line 11). Therefore, it would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the Land system by using directed a-cyclic graphic for maintaining extended properties such as color, text in order to render an image.

Conclusion

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HUNG Q PHAM whose telephone number is 703-605-4242. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, JOHN E BREENE can be reached on 703-305-9790. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

Examiner Hung Pham
December 24, 2003

SHAHID ALAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER